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The Business Picture

There are signs abundant that the nation is coming out of the economic slowdown, or recession if you prefer, of the last couple of years.

The construction industry definitely is doing better and levels of retail trade are holding up surprisingly well.

Here in Oregon, employment in May was well ahead of April and substantially above May, 1970.

Bright spots in the economic picture of the Pacific Northwest include Portland, Eugene, Springfield, Bellingham, Bremerton and Vancouver, Wash.

Improvements in the housing market have been reflected favorably in Oregon's forest products industry, and the power picture looks somewhat brighter.

A particularly hopeful note off in the future is the possibility of trade with Red China. This would aid port cities along the Columbia river and on Puget Sound.

Seattle, of course, continues in the economic doldrums but even there, hopeful signs are present. Retail trade is not at all bad, construction other than housing is doing well and Seattle's maritime trade is booming. Seattle, the experts say, should have substantial recovery by mid-1972.

Locally, one gets the feel that business is better. More people are in the stores, collections are improving and businessmen generally appear more optimistic.

Hopefully, the recession and-or depression has run its course.

The Will of the People

We learned in school that our form of government was a democracy, in which the will of the people was expressed either directly or through elected representatives.

With that thought in mind, just what are we still doing in Viet-Nam?

A vast majority of the people in the United States think we should get out of Viet-Nam, now. This point isn't even arguable.

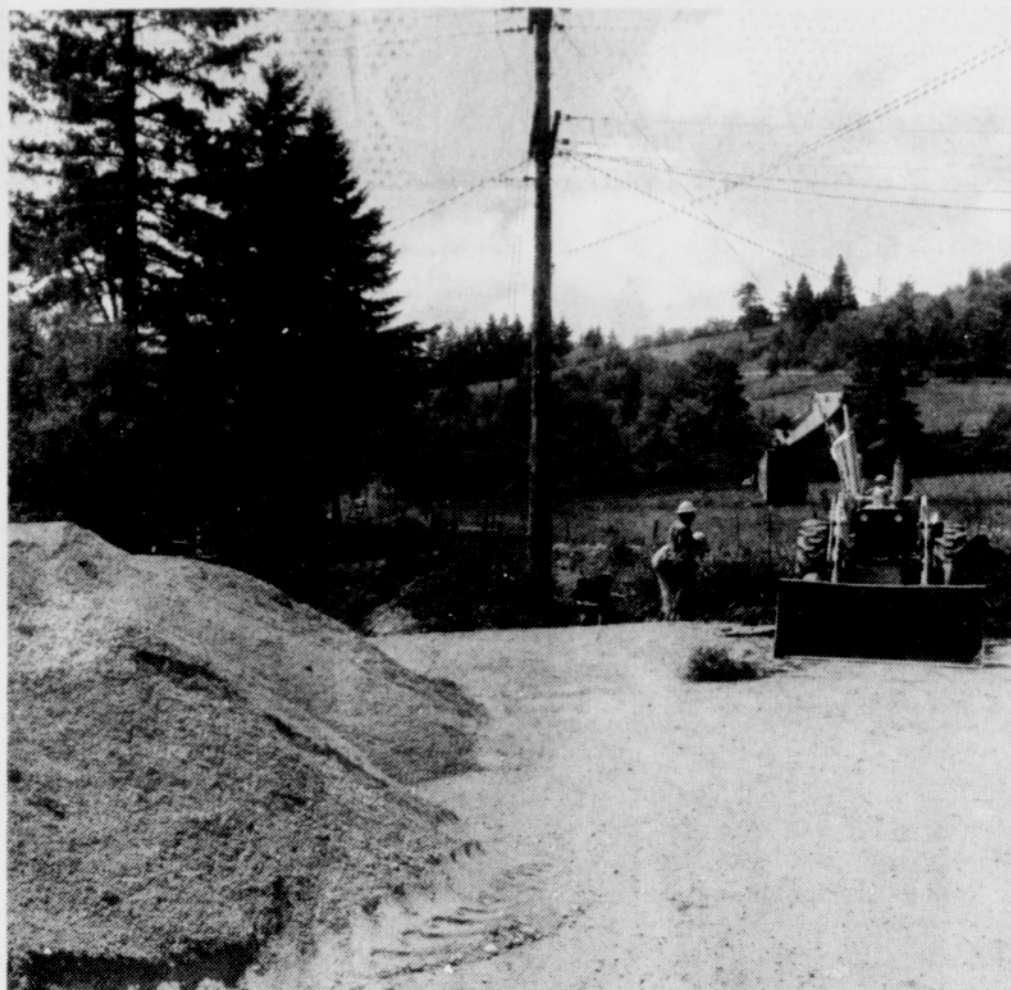
Yet a majority of our elected representatives in Washington, D.C., have voted to renew the draft and have beaten down every attempt to end the war in Viet-Nam. The Nixon administration, supposedly devoted to winding down the war, is fighting every suggestion that curbs be placed on our involvement in Viet-Nam.

The rationale, of course, is that the administration and our elected representatives know far more than we, the people. They supposedly have access to all sort of secret, inside information and hence can better judge our course of conduct.

So, really then, does it make any difference what the people want? The administration and Congress, at least on Viet-Nam, are taking a course thoroughly unpopular with at least 70 per cent of the people.

Yet they persist.

The only course, it seems, would be to remember next time around just how Sen. So-and-So voted. But the voters, alas, have very short memories.



PART OF THE new pipeline for the Boring Water District has been placed in the ground. The district is currently putting in a new line and also a new water storage tank to serve the district's users. (Post photo)



GRESHAM MAYOR Dr. Alan Fisher, right, congratulates the new administrator of Gresham General Hospital Carleton Lindgren, left. Ben Doerksen, center, recently sold the hospital to a combine of

Emanuel and Physicians & Surgeon hospital. Since Monday, June 14, it has become known as Gresham Community Hospital.

Voter referral action faces bill

Plans for a statewide referendum on House Bill 1054, city-county consolidation, were announced Wednesday.

The group, Fair Play Committee on City-County Consolidation, must obtain 26,656 valid signatures by Sept. 9 to place the referendum on the November, 1972, ballot.

Committee members indicated that plans already are under way for a statewide campaign to obtain the necessary signatures.

The city-county consolidation bill, which has yet to be signed into law by Gov. Tom McCall, applies only to Multnomah County. However, the referendum would be voted upon statewide.

The committee is headed by three residents of East Multnomah County, Glenn Otto, Elmer Sturm and Lee Irwin. Otto is mayor of Troutdale and vice-chairman of the Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee. Sturm is president of the Multnomah County unit of the American Farm Bureau while Irwin is publisher of the Gresham Outlook and a member of the Portland Metropolitan Study Commission.

State Sen. Vern Cook, a leading opponent of H.B. 1054, also is active in the organization.

"Two aspects of the bill," a spokesman said, "are particularly repugnant. It is these we seek to remedy through a popular vote, statewide."

"The first is the provision which denies voters of unincorporated areas the same vote as residents of Portland. A person who lives in Portland may vote to opt out of con-

solidation; residents of suburban areas are denied this right, unless they too live in an incorporated town.

"We think the vote of a person who lives in the county is just as important as the vote of a person who lives in Portland, and should be treated accordingly."

"The second unfair provision is that which would freeze boundaries of existing East County communities as presently constituted, or as

Two fishermen help apprehend vandals

The quick work of two fishermen helped the Forest Service in apprehending two boys who committed vandalism.

The two boys, who live in the mountain area, are now learning that "crime does not pay" by working on conservation work for the ranger station at Zig Zag.

The two fishermen, Dennis and Warren Kemery of Portland, were fishing when they saw the two boys throw garbage cans into the Salmon River, according to the Forest Service report.

Here's a defensive driving tip from the Portland Traffic Safety Commission: Good seeing is the first requirement for good driving. In night driving, poorly adjusted headlights can reduce your illumination by 80 per cent. Have your headlights checked now to make sure of safe driving light.

constituted when the measure becomes effective.

"This means that Gresham, Troutdale, Wood Village etc. would forever more be frozen into inflexible boundaries, with no hope of expansion. This despite the fact that Gresham and Troutdale, in particular, already provide large areas outside their corporate limits with sewer service."

The group is aiming for a minimum of 35,000 signatures.

The men then reported the incident to the Zig Zag ranger station and the boys were apprehended by George Reinhart, recreation foreman for the Forest Service.

The boys then discussed their vandalism with Dick Buscher, district ranger, and stated their wish to make-up for their mistake. Buscher informed the boys that they were subject to a fine or imprisonment for vandalism of government property.

After reviewing the case, Buscher felt that the best lesson could be learned by the boys doing some conservation work. Both are now doing this work. Forest Service employees expressed appreciation to the two fishermen in helping apprehend the two boys. According to Buscher, the Forest Service invites help from the public.

Any vandalism should be reported to the nearest ranger station with as much information as possible.

★ Letters to the Editor ★

To the Editor

The allegation that the Ralph Nader Study Group will conduct an investigation of County Zoning Codes as they affect Hoodland is baseless.

A secondary rumor that the writer is an agent of this group also is without foundation.

Sincerely,
Dick Kithil
Zig Zag, Ore.

To the Editor:

Open letter to all our patrons and fine neighbors in the Hoodland and surrounding areas.

Thank you all and Audie Lionberger for making our six years very pleasant while working at Brightwood Dump. We already miss you friends dropping in on us to see how our day is going.

God is Good! My George is looking much rested and in spite of himself, he needed it. We have an unimproved lot of

¾ acre here in Gates, Oregon and our 22 ft. trailer and our 16 yr. old Tom cat that George dearly loves and our 8 month old black Pebble cat.

George has made a step now and has stakes placed for a floor to our 9' by 12' quest and storage rooms. We will be using 2 by 4's that Mr. Fox kindly gave George one day. We also salvaged windows and two doors from the dump.

In between our busy days George treated me to a fine lunch and a car trip to Detroit Dam area. Just gorgeous! The water is deep blue-green and the sun was sparkling on it in spots for we have 70'ish weather with sprinkles of rain.

God Bless you all and thank you again for your friendship. Would like to write to you all but just no time so hope this will be adequate.

Sincerely,
Friends
The LeRays

county funds (Continued from page 1)

ranch will come only from Clackamas County on a priority basis and they will be assigned by the Oregon Corrections Division. In the past the boys have been assigned directly from the Clackamas County Juvenile Court.

The federal funds for the ranch will come through the newly created Children Services Bureau of the Human Resources Division. The bureau will serve as an umbrella agency to service 19 youth-care centers in the state. The ranch is expected to be incorporated by July 1 and will be a non-profit private corporation.

The board of directors will be William Olund, Rex Putnam high school dean of boys; Fred Stefani, county commissioner

who will serve as a private citizen; Virginia Agar, Milwaukie; James Desherau, member of the county juvenile advisory council and vice president of the Publishers Paper Co. in Oregon City; Robert McEahern, medical doctor from Milwaukie; Donald Welch, director of the county juvenile dept.; and Judge Blanding.

Perk 'Em Up
Top 'em, stuff 'em, sauce 'em, spice 'em or just season 'em and then eat 'em. These are a few varied treatments that can be given to beefburgers whether they be cooked under the range broiler or on the outdoor grill.

Berry quality

This year's wet spring has not hurt strawberries, according to Leon Hubbard, field representative at United Flav-R-Pac Growers.

Hubbard said the first shipment of berries at Flav-R-Pac arrived June 14. Last year the berries were ten days earlier. Hubbard said he was sure the season would stretch until the first week of July.

"I don't think this is a big crop. It's an average good crop. The quality of the berries is very good," he said.

The picking price for a crate of berries will be between 70 and 75 cents. Hubbard added the berries coming in have been large in size.

"If anybody is going to make money picking strawberries they ought to do it this year," Hubbard said.

Here's a safe driving tip from the Portland Traffic Safety Commission: Winter driving damage may have left some parts of your car unsafe for faster, harder summer driving. So, before you start on that vacation trip this summer — make sure your car steers, stops and runs safely.

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